Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Lupus is an autoimmune disease that can cause severe damage to the tissue and organs in the body and in some cases, death; and,

Whereas, More than five million people worldwide suffer the devastating effects of this disease, and each year over a hundred thousand young women, men, and children are newly diagnosed with lupus, the great majority of whom are women of childbearing age; and,

Whereas, Medical research efforts into lupus and the discovery of safer, more effective treatments for lupus patients are under-funded in comparison with diseases of comparable magnitude and severity; and,

Whereas, Many physicians worldwide are unaware of symptoms and health effects of lupus, causing people with lupus to suffer for many years before they obtain a correct diagnosis and medical treatment; and,

Whereas, There is a deep, unmet need worldwide to educate and support individuals and families affected by lupus; and,

Whereas, There is an urgent need to increase awareness in communities worldwide of the debilitating impact of lupus; and,

Whereas, Lupus organizations around the globe call for increases in public and private sector funding for medical research on lupus, targeted education programs for health professionals, patients, and the public, and worldwide recognition of lupus as a significant public health issue:

Now, Therefore, I Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 10, 2012, as

WORLD LUPUS DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State